Faith Family News

From the Pastor's Pen...

For Christians, baptism is all about God. Baptism is about what God does and has done in our lives. It is an experience that is lifegiving as God bathes us in unending mercy, grace and unconditional love. Baptism is about God's on-going action in our lives through water and Word. Baptism gives us a new identity as we learn God loves us unconditionally, accepts us as we are and makes us God's very own. Baptism is about living into a new identity, our baptismal identity, and it is an experience that shapes our vocation as Christians.

Our baptism and our Christian vocation are inextricably linked together. One cannot exist without the other. We have been changed and this new vocation and commitment call us into a life of discipleship. Baptism calls us to work for justice and peace in our communities, in our country and around the globe. Through baptism God calls us to live **God's** restorative justice and love in the world and proclaim the coming reign of God. Baptism calls us to live in such a way that the Spirit of God is infused in everything we do. Baptism calls us **out** of the old order and **into** the new order that is God's dream for the world, the reign of the living Christ.

The second and third Sundays in June bring us respectively to the place where we as a church celebrate the Festival of Pentecost and the Feast of the Holy Trinity. As we begin worship on June 9, we enter the season of Pentecost which is the longest season of the church year. The Festival of Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter Sunday and the season itself extends to the season of Advent. And, whereas the other seasons of the church year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Easter) emphasize some aspect of the life of Jesus, Pentecost emphasizes the life of the Spirit-infused church. The Pentecost season is all about **disciples in action**!

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Faith Lutheran Church 4515 Dobie Road **Okemos, MI 48864** Office Hours: 9am-1pm **Monday-Friday** Phone: (517) 349-0620 Fax: (517) 349-5822 www.faithlutheranokemos.org faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Ministers

All Members of the Faith Family Pastor Ellen Schoepf prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org **High School Leader**

Katie Love Middle School Leader Maddie Wosinski **Director of Music Deb Borton-McDonough Instrumental Worship Leader Bruce Williams Church Secretary** Katie Love klove@faithluthernokemos.org

Newsletter Editor Katie Love

Mission Partner Congregation Redeemer Lutheran Church

| President | Paul Hereza |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Vice President | Ryan Thompson |
| Secretary | Molly DeHate |
| Treasurer Gv | wynne Kadrofske |
| Financial Secretary | Tom Schrote |
| Members-at-Large | |
| • | Kurt Steinke |
| Past President | Kim O'Brien |

| Committe | ee Chairs |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Caring | Pam Williams |
| Evangelism/Outrea | ach |
| Brenda I | Kopf & Ellen Lewis |
| Human Resources | Lori Webb |
| Media/Technology | Chris Lewis |
| Membership Devel | opment |
| Jean Lewis & | & Michelle Ransom |
| Mutual Ministry | Linda Hirt |
| Parish Ed | |
| Property | Bob Nelson |
| | Rick Beaderstadt |
| Stewardship | Kim O'Brien |
| Worship & Music | Diane Hill |

Thank you for serving.

| ACOLYTES | | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|------|
| June 2 | Austin Jones | July 7 | open |
| June 9 | open | July 14 | open |
| June 16 | open | July 21 | open |
| June 23 | open | July 28 | open |
| June 30 | open | | |
| | | | |

Sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094caaa623a3f49-acolyte

ALTAR CARE

July:

Pam Williams June:

Helper 6/16: Cecelia Kramer June 2/9/23/30: Open Helper all Dates: Open

Please use sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex if available to assist. COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

See Acolyte, Lay Assistant and Reader.

Elaine Harrison

GREETERS

| June 2 | Bob Scholle | July 7 | Rich Weingartner |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| June 9 | Ken & Karen Whitmyer | July 14 | Mike Eschelbach |
| June 16 | Jeff & Melinda Schultz | July 21 | Bill & Pam Williams |
| June 23 | Jack & Natalie Dingledine | July 28 | Bob Scholle |
| June 30 | Gail & Lowell Barricklow | | |

LAY ASSISTANTS

| June 2 | Dane Webb | July 7 | John McPhail |
|---------|------------------|---------|---------------------|
| June 9 | Rich Weingartner | July 14 | Kim O'Brien |
| June 16 | Maddie Wosinski | July 21 | Ken Schoepf |
| June 23 | Jim Crum | July 28 | Harold Sollenberger |
| June 30 | Mike Eschelbach | | |

READERS

| June 2 | Warren Heilman |
|---------|----------------|
| June 9 | Gus Lusis |
| June 16 | Brenda Kopf |
| June 23 | Linda Hirt |
| June 30 | John McCracken |

USHERS

June 2 Jon & Elaine Harrison June 9 Jon & Elaine Harrison June 16 Jon & Elaine Harrison June 23 Jon & Elaine Harrison June 30 Jon & Elaine Harrison

NURSERY

June 2 Jennifer Coe June 9 Heidi Bowers June 16 Lori Webb June 23 O'Brien's June 30 Schultz

| July 14 | Brian Ransom |
|---------|-----------------|
| July 21 | Jack Dingledine |
| July 28 | Elaine Harrison |
| | |

Natalie Dingledine

July 7

| July 7 | Heilman |
|---------|------------|
| July 14 | Heilman |
| July 21 | Eschelbach |
| July 28 | Eschelbach |

| July 7 | Marquardt's |
|---------|----------------|
| July 14 | William's |
| July 21 | Rachel Ngasala |
| July 28 | Jennifer Coe |

Faith Notes

Pentecost is a wonderful time to reflect upon our baptisms and remember the Holy Spirit is still at work, calling, gathering, and empowering us to **grow** in discipleship. When a baptized Christian affirms his or her faith, the person is asked, "**Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:**

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?"

These are the five God-given gifts of discipleship we have been given in baptism. And, the season of Pentecost invites us to reflect upon these God-given gifts. This season of discipleship invites us to think about the ways in which these gifts overlap and are intertwined as one gift flows into another and into faithful living.

As we continue to journey together as people of Faith, be open to where the Holy Spirit is breathing new life into your life and pray for the Holy Spirit to inspire us to nurture both our inward and outward gifts of discipleship.

Pastor Ellen



SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Altar Care Schedule is posted on the new "Volunteer Board" in the narthex. Openings are highlighted in yellow. Please feel free to add your name or talk with Elaine Harrison or Peggy Crum. Elaine is scheduled for the month of August and would love to work with a newbie to Altar Care on any of those weeks.

Prayers for Health & Healing

Members of the congregation: Rita Barry, Ellen Milne & Ken Whitmyer

Friends & Family:

Tarri Anderson, Harriet, Michael Bennett, Todd Barriklow, Bill Baker, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Al, Lilly Sai, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meridith, Jeanne and Leonard, Jonathon Manitta family, Kiersten, Loretta Milne, Harry Nelson, Patricia Rinehart, Bethany Robinson, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Lisa & Scott Seeley, & the White family

Prayers of Intercession

- Our Mission Partner congregation: Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Those in Military service: Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks and Melody, Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.

Please contact the church office at <u>faith@faithlutheranokemos.org</u> or 349-0620 to update the prayer list.

The website for **Prayer Ventures** is http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/ prayer-ventures Prayer Ventures is a guide to daily prayer for the ministries of the church produced by ELCA Communication Services on behalf of the whole church.

Beer & Hymns

Beer & Hymes

Beer & Hymns is suspended through the summer. We will plan to meet again starting the first Sunday in October.

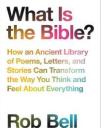
Faith Lutheran Golf League

This summer, our Golf League has again hit the tees. Our league will play on **Thursday evenings at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course**. We tee off at 5:30 each week and all are welcome, even if you are not a great golfer. (*Just watch Pastor Ellen!*) **We will play each Thursday through Thursday, September 19**. The cost for the season will be \$234 per player, due the first night of play. *If you are only able to come on occasion, we still welcome you, and you can pay only for those nights when you are able to make it. The cost per player for one evening is \$13 per person.* We play a scramble so you can invite someone to join you. If you are interested in playing, please contact Pastor Ellen. If you should have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen or Ken Schoepf.



WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

This book study continues as participants gather on Tuesday evenings at the O'Brien's home.



New York Times Bestseller

If you have ever wondered how an ancient library of poems, letters, and stories can transform the way you think and feel about everything, this book study will provide you with some answers. *What Is The Bible?* provides surprising insights and answers about how the Bible actually works as a source of faith and guidance, showcasing a brand-new way of reading this sacred text. Bell takes us deep into actual passages, revealing not only the humanity behind the scriptures but the revelation that one cannot get to the holy without going through the human. When considering a passage, Bell explains the worst question we can ask of a text ("Why did God....?") and the best question to ask ("Why did people find this important to write down?") to get at how scripture can best guide us today. In asking these questions, Bell goes beyond the one-dimensional

questions of "Is it true?" to reveal the Bible's surprisingly transformative power. What Is The Bible? recaptures this ancient library's subversive energy and reaffirms its enduring ability to inspire and shape our lives today.

If you wish to join us as we continue this study, please contact Kim O'Brien.

Dinner Church – While Wednesday Night Live is suspended until mid-September, **Dinner Church** continues. Join us as we gather together each Wednesday at 6:00 PM to share a sacred meal, just as the first followers of Jesus did. Come and join us for a fully prepared meal as we eat together, explore scripture, offer prayers, and experience the Eucharist. This worship experience is rooted in the patterns of the Early Church. If you cannot make it to worship on Sunday morning, come and join us on Wednesday evening!



MEETINGS, STUDIES & EVENTS

Butterfly Release, Sunday, June 16 – On the 16th, following worship, we will head out to our Butterfly Garden to release our live butterflies. **We will also dedicate our new Peace Poles.** The confirmation students worked on creating Peace Poles this year. The two Peace Poles near our Butterfly Garden have the words "May Peace Prevail on Earth" written on one side. On the other sides, our refugee friends will have written the same words in their native language.

<u>New Member Sunday, July 14</u> - Join us on July 14, as we will again welcome new members into the Faith Lutheran Community. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of this Faith community and Pastor Ellen has not yet spoken to you, please contact her through the church office.

<u>ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC</u> – Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 24, from 4:30 – 7:00 PM. That is the day of our annual Community Picnic! This year we will be collecting school supplies and giving out these school supplies to the children who attend the event. Therefore, to prepare for that event, we will begin asking for donations of school supplies on July 1.

Plan to join us on August 24 as we again enjoy music provided by *Summer of Sol* and delicious pork barbeque catered by The Watershed Bar & Grill.



Fill Out Postcards then March with Faith Lutheran at Michigan Pride!

In continuing our commitment to our welcoming statement to share God's love with all -Faith Lutheran will again be participating in Michigan Pride in Lansing on Saturday, June 15. There are several ways you can participate.

After worship on Sunday, June 2 and June 9, we will have a table set up in the narthex where you can write messages of affirmation and welcome on postcards. We'll have everything you need and some sample messages if you need a starting point. We will hand these postcards out during pride. These can have a huge impact on the people who attend pride, who often may have never heard before that God loves them unconditionally and exactly for who they are.

On Saturday, June 15, we will line up around 11:30 a.m. near Adado Riverfront Park and LCC to march in the Pride Parade which steps off at noon. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and march with us. Let us proudly and publicly proclaim God's love for all by having a strong showing in the parade!

We will also have a booth set up in the vendor area during the Pride Festival that runs from noon until the evening. If you would like to attend and help staff the booth, we'd appreciate additional people to help share the good news of God's love for all. We will be passing out free water as well.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Rich Weingartner, <u>mathwhiz@mathwhiz.org</u> or 517-927-4481.

TANZANIA WATER PROJECT

Sunday, June 23, Tanzania Water Project –

Join us as we hear from Dave Sacco, the engineer who serves as mentor to Yale Engineers

Without Borders. He will be sharing with us updates on the Tanzania Water Project. In August of this year, the team will again travel to Tanzania. The construction goal for this year is to excavate more of the pond basin so it can hold more water. The team hopes to create another 5,000 cubic meters of capacity this year so that the pond can capture and store as much of the seasonal rainfall as practical. The overall program goal is to make enough water available in the pond during the dry seasons that livestock will no longer have to rely on water from the well and water tanks. Without competition from the



economically important livestock, the clean, safe water from the well can be used by households for drinking and cooking. To support that goal, the team is preparing lessons to help community members understand the importance of water to health and the differences between the water sources that are available in Naitolia.

In addition, the team plans to spend time evaluating and measuring the existing system of pumps, pipelines and storage tanks that provides well water to some parts of Naitolia. That information will allow them to identify ways to make the water distribution system serve the community more reliably and predictably, as well as increasing the area covered by the system.

To read more about this project, here is a link to an article that appeared in the Yale News:

https://news.yale.edu/2019/02/12/students-hone-engineering-teamwork-skills-tackling-real-worldprojects?utm_source=YNemail&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ynalumni-02-14-19

In a recent communication with Pastor Ellen, Dave Sacco, the team mentor, reports, "We are looking forward to returning to Naitolia in August to resume work with a team including four Yale undergraduates, Tula Ngasala, faculty advisor Jordan Peccia, myself, TPP staff, and a Tanzanian engineering counterpart. I hope that the Faith Lutheran congregation will consider supporting our efforts again this year, and I will be happy to answer any questions you might have about our work so far and our plans for 2019."

Join us on June 23 as we hear more about this effort. Through this work, we are doing the work of living into God's dream for this world.

DCYE/PARISH EDUCATION

June

<u>Graduation Sunday, June 9</u> – On Sunday, June 9, we will honor all our graduating seniors. Join us as we celebrate all their accomplishments.

17-21 High School Mission Trip at Redeemer Lutheran Church day camp

23rd 5:00 p.m. Bat House Assembly hosted by the Green Team.

Faith's High School Graduates

Kadin Bowers



Kadin has been a member of Faith Lutheran since his birth. He was baptized at Faith by Pastor Neves. Growing up, Kadin was very involved in Faith Lutheran student groups as well as mission trips and VBS. He participated in robotics for 8 years, starting in 5th grade. During high school Kadin was in the marching band for all 4 years and held the honor of drum major. Kadin is graduating from Haslett High School and will be attending Kettering University in the Fall where he will be studying Mechanical Engineering.



Owen Dingledine

Owen has been a member of Faith Lutheran Church since his birth and was baptized by Pastor Neves. He has participated in numerous church activities over the years including Youth Group, VBS, mission trip to West Virginia, and local mission opportunities. Owen participated in Ski Club, JV tennis and 3 years of Varsity lacrosse while in high school. He graduates from Haslett High School and will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall.



Sam Kadrofske

Sam is graduating from Okemos High School. Since becoming a member of Faith Lutheran Church at the age of five, he has actively participated in Sunday school, Trinity, Confirmation, VBS and the high school youth group. Sam attended the mission trip to Wheeling, West Virginia in 2016 and the Gathering in Houston in 2018. He has played the euphonium since the 5th grade and plans to continue participating in band during college. He has also been a member of the Okemos High School golf team for the past four years and recently earned All-Conference. In the fall, Sam will be attending Purdue University where he plans to pursue a degree in Computer Graphics Technology within the Purdue Polytechnic Institute.

Walter Lewis



Walter Williams Lewis is a 2019 graduate of Okemos High School. He has lived in Okemos since June 2017, and his family became members of Faith early in 2018. Walter spent his freshman and sophomore years at Samuel V. Champion High School in Boerne, Texas; he also confirmed his faith there at St. John Lutheran Church. After throwing his heart into the band program in Boerne, especially the marching band where he led the loading crew as a sophomore, he embraced new experiences in Michigan, where he joined the cross country and track teams. Throughout his four years, he maintained high academic standards and looks forward to continuing his successes at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he plans to major in computer science.



Zakaria Mohamud

Zakaria Mohamed Mohamud will graduate Cum Laude from Williamston High School on Sunday, June 9, 2019. He says, "The medical field has always fascinated me since my childhood. I come from a society that is underprivileged in many areas, including healthcare. I understand the importance of medicine in society and the ability to take away people's pain and suffering inspires me." Zakaria will attend Lansing Community College and study pre-nursing this fall. All are welcome to join in celebrating this milestone at his Open House on July 13th! Information cards in the Narthex.



Abdoul Rachid Mamah

Rachid is graduating from Williamston High School on Sunday, June 9, 2019. In High School he was on the Varsity soccer and track teams. Rachid made States in track his Junior and Senior year. Rachid will be attending Lansing Community College in the Fall and will be studying pre-nursing. All are welcome to join in celebrating this milestone at his Open House on June 15th from 4-8 p.m. Information cards are in the Narthex.

Faith's Higher Education Graduates

Tula Ngasala

Tula graduated from MSU on Friday, May 3, receiving her Doctorate in Environmental Engineering.

Gregory McCracken

Gregory McCracken, son of John and Gayle McCracken, is receiving his Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Stanford University on Sunday, June 16. He will be staying at Stanford for another year doing post-doctoral research and looking for that next job! His wife, Melissa, is a museum educator at the Oakland Museum of California and would love for Greg to find a job closer to Michigan. John & Gayle are keeping their fingers crossed ©

June 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| Butterfly Orders Due 10:00 AM Worship Service | Church Closed | | 9:30 AM Quilting 11:30 AM 60 +/- Meeting & Lunch 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | 6:00 PM Sanctuary Rented | 7:00 AM Large Fellowship Hall Rented |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Worship Committee 2:30 PM Sanctuary Rented | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group 7:00 PM Green Team Meeting | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 7:00 PM What is the Bible Book Study at O'Brien's | 9:30 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | Synod Candidacy Meeting | Large Fellowship Hall Rented |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Grad Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM Worship at the Willows | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 9:30 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | Pride Parade 12:00 PM Sanctuary Rented |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| Butterfly Release 10:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes | High School Missions Trip: Redeemer Lutheran 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group 7:00 PM Church Council | Trip: Redeemer Lutheran 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | Trip: Redeemer Lutheran 6:00 PM Dinner | High School Missions Trip: Redeemer Lutheran 7:00 PM Golf League | High School Missions Trip: Redeemer Lutheran | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | |
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | Church office Closed | Church office Closed | |

July 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | Church office Closed | Church office Closed | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Worship Committee | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| New Member Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM Worship at the Willows | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group 7:00 PM Church Council | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 11:30 AM 60 +/- Meeting 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 10:00 AM Worship Service | 9:30 AM Meridian Play Group | 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group | 6:00 PM Dinner Church | 7:00 PM Golf League | | |